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7  
8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
11  
12 Plaintiff,  
13 v.  
14 JONATHAN THORNTON,  
15 Defendant.

CASE NO. 2:20-MJ-00082-EFB

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STIPULATION AND PROTECTIVE ORDER

17 Plaintiff United States of America (“government”), by and through its counsel of record, and  
18 defendant Jonathan Thornton (“defendant”), by and through his undersigned counsel of record, Tim  
19 Zindel, Assistant Federal Public Defender, hereby jointly request, pursuant to Federal Rule of  
20 Criminal Procedure 16(d)(1), that the Court approve the parties’ stipulation and enter the proposed  
21 protective order below (“Protective Order”) governing the disclosure by the government of certain  
22 documents and materials containing private and sensitive information, including information that relates  
23 to and identifies the alleged victims in the investigation, along with the defendant’s personally  
24 identifying information and employment information. By this stipulation, the parties agree and stipulate  
25 as follows:

26 1. WHEREAS, the defendant is charged in the current complaint with one count of  
27 distribution of child pornography in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2251(a);

28 2. WHEREAS, the government possesses, and in the future may come into possession of,

1 discovery and other materials in this case that contain, among other things, victim-related information,  
2 as well as personally identifying information, private financial information, and employment  
3 information of the defendant and third parties;

4         3.         WHEREAS, the government wishes to produce and/or make available to the defendant  
5 and his counsel the documents and information described above, or similar material that might come  
6 into the government's possession in the future, but believes that because of the nature of such documents  
7 and information, it is appropriate for the Court to enter a protective order containing the provisions  
8 below;

9         4.         WHEREAS, such materials shall be identified as sensitive and subject to a protective  
10 order at the time of disclosure, whether on the documents or other materials (e.g., CDs/DVDs)  
11 themselves or in an accompanying cover letter;

12         5.         WHEREAS, the parties agree that entry of a stipulated protective order is appropriate,  
13 and that a private agreement is not appropriate in light of the nature of the information at issue and the  
14 charges in this case; and

15         6.         WHEREAS, the defendant has counsel who wishes the opportunity to review the  
16 discovery and other materials; and

17         7.         The parties agree that the ability of defense counsel to adequately advise his client will be  
18 enhanced by the approval of this protective order.

19         The government and the defendant, by and through their respective counsel of record, hereby  
20 agree and stipulate to a Protective Order with the following provisions:

21         1.         This Court may enter protective orders pursuant to Rule 16(d) of the Federal Rules of  
22 Criminal Procedure, its general supervisory authority, and Local Rule 141.1.

23         2.         Some materials to be provided or made available by the government to the defendant as  
24 discovery or out of an abundance of caution relate to, or contain private and sensitive information about,  
25 alleged victims and individuals other than the defendant, are not public information, and include, but are  
26 not limited to: investigative or agency memoranda or reports; victim or witness statements; recorded  
27 interviews; private financial information; and other personally-identifying information; and sensitive  
28 victim-related information. Accordingly, these discovery materials and all copies thereof should be

1 protected from unnecessary dissemination. This information is collectively referred to as the “Protected  
2 Discovery.”

3         3. Such Protected Discovery materials shall be identified as being subject to a protective  
4 order at the time of disclosure, whether on the documents or other materials (e.g., CDs/DVDs,  
5 documents) themselves or in an accompanying cover letter.

6         4. The Protected Discovery produced or made available by the government pursuant to this  
7 Protective Order may be used by the defendant, the defendant’s counsel, and any employees or agents of  
8 the defendant’s counsel solely in the defense of this case and for no other purpose. The Protected  
9 Discovery is now and will forever remain the property of the United States government. The defendant’s  
10 counsel will return the Protected Discovery to the government or certify that it has been shredded and/or  
11 permanently deleted at the conclusion of the case, unless counsel believes he or she is otherwise  
12 required by ethical rule or opinion to retain the Protected Discovery. If counsel believes he or she is  
13 subject to an ethical rule or opinion requiring retention of the Protected Discovery, he or she shall notify  
14 the government of that decision and securely maintain that Protected Discovery consistent with the  
15 remaining terms of the Protective Order.

16         5. The defendant’s counsel and the defendant shall not disclose any of the Protected  
17 Discovery directly or indirectly to any person except those assisting the defense, persons who are  
18 interviewed as potential witnesses, potential experts, or other authorized persons, during the course of  
19 the investigation and defense of this case.

20         6. The Protected Discovery produced by the government shall not be copied or reproduced  
21 unless the material is copied or reproduced for authorized persons to assist in the defense, and in the  
22 event copies are made, the copies shall be treated in the same manner as the original material.

23         7. When providing the Protected Discovery materials to an authorized person, the  
24 defendant’s counsel must inform the authorized person that the materials are provided subject to the  
25 terms of this Protective Order, and provide a copy of the Protective Order. The parties agree that defense  
26 counsel, defense investigators, and support staff shall not provide the protected discovery to the  
27 defendant or any other witness or copies of the Protected Discovery, except for the limited situations  
28 identified in this Order.



**ORDER**

It is ordered that the parties comply with the following protective order with respect to computer materials alleged to contain child pornography:

- a. Upon request, the investigating agents shall make a duplicate copy of the defendant's hard drive(s) and any other storage media available for defense analysis;
- b. The duplicate copies of the defendant's hard drive(s) and storage media shall be made available for defense counsel, defense counsel staff, or another member of the defense team(s), and the defendant's proposed computer expert(s) to review at a designated government office, for the purpose of preparing for the defense of the above-entitled action. The images on the hard drive and storage media shall not be viewed by any other person;
- c. A private room will be provided for the defense examination. No Government agents will be inside the room during the examination, unless requested by the defense attorney or investigator or expert;
- d. The expert or defense counsel will be permitted to bring whatever equipment, books, or records he or she believes may be necessary to conduct the examination;
- e. Neither the defense expert nor defense attorneys nor the defense counsel staff shall remove the hard drive(s) or other storage media from the confines of the law enforcement office;
- f. With the exception of materials which would be considered child pornography under federal law (including visual depictions and data capable of conversion into a visual depiction), the expert or defense counsel may copy files or portions of files, provided the forensic integrity of the hard drive(s) is not altered. The expert or defense counsel will certify in writing (using the attached certification), that he or she has taken no materials which would be considered child pornography, or data capable of being converted into child pornography (under federal law), and that he or she has not caused any child pornography to be sent from the law enforcement premises by any means including by any electronic transfer of files;
- g. Except when a defense expert or defense counsel fails to provide this certification, no Government agent, or any person connected with the Government, will examine or acquire in any fashion any of the items used by the expert or defense counsel in order to conduct the

1 defense analysis. Should a defense expert or defense counsel fail to certify that the expert or  
2 counsel has not copied or removed child pornography, or data capable of being converted into  
3 child pornography, Government agents may then inspect or examine the materials in order to  
4 ensure that prohibited child pornography has not been removed;

5 h. When the defense indicates that it is finished with its review of the copy of the hard drive(s), the  
6 drive(s) or other storage devices shall be “wiped” clean;

7 i. Any disputes regarding the above or problems implementing this order shall be brought to the  
8 attention of the court through representative counsel after first consulting opposing counsel.

9 The Court has reviewed the parties’ proposed Stipulation and Protective Order and, for good  
10 cause shown, HEREBY ORDERS that the parties’ proposed Stipulation and Protective Order is  
11 ADOPTED and APPROVED with the above-stated terms.

12 IT IS SO ORDERED.

13 Dated: June 16, 2020

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16 CAROLYN K. DELANEY  
17 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
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